

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 DAMASC 00480 211701Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 TRSE-00
SSM-05 IO-13 ACDA-10 AID-05 /098 W
-----220137Z 129818 /73

R 211609Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1417
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN
USIA WASHDC
DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 0480

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR PINT SY
SUBJ: SYRIAN MEDIA SUMMARY JANUARY 21

1. MEDIA GAVE LAVISH TREATMENT TO SPEECH PRES ASAD
DELIVERED EVENING JAN 20 TO OPEN FOURTH SMALL FARMERS'
CONGRESS. DAILIES HEADLINED: "LEADER ASAD ANNOUNCED AT
FOURTH SMALL FARMERS' CONGRESS 'OUR LAND WILL BE LIBERATED
AND THE RIGHTS OF OUR PEOPLE WILL BE RESTORED. WE HAVE
RESCUED THE PEOPLE OF LEBANON AND THE PEOPLE OF PALESTINE.
WE WILL WORK TO CONSOLIDATE TIES WITH JORDAN AND EGYPT.'"
ARTICLES OPENED BY QUOTING PARTS OF SPEECH DEALING WITH SYRIA'S
ROLE IN "RESCUING" LEBANON AND THE PALESTINIANS FROM FOREIGN
PLOT DIRECTED AGAINST THEM. ASAD LAUDED RECENT EFFORTS
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 DAMASC 00480 211701Z

TOWARDS RECREATING ARAB UNITY AS IT EXISTED AT TIME OF
OCTOBER WAR IN ORDER TO BE PREPARED TO CONFRONT THE
"ENEMY." HE AFFIRMED THAT SYRIA IS CONTINUING TO WORK
FOR A JUST PEACE, ALTHOUGH A JUST PEACE IS WHAT "ISRAEL
WISHES TO AVOID." HE SAID THAT SYRIA IS WORKING "TO PLACE
ISRAEL BEFORE THE OPTIONS AMONG WHICH IT MUST CHOOSE IN
ORDER TO CLARIFY TO WORLD WHO WANTS JUST AND TRUE PEACE AND

WHO IS ONLY REPEATING WORDS OF PEACE WHILE CONTINUING AGGRESSION."

2. IN EDITORIAL COMMENT ON ASAD'S TIME INTERVIEW COLUMNIST STATED ASAD WAS ANXIOUS TO POINT OUT THAT U.S. NOT EXERCISING ROLE COMMENSURATE WITH ITS STRENGTH AND RESPONSIBILITIES SINCE IT HAD CAPABILITY TO ACHIEVE STABLE PEACE IN MIDEAST. CLAIMED U.S. OFFICIALS EXPRESSING OUTRIGHT BIAS TOWARDS "ZIONIST BASE" WHICH AT VARIANCE WITH TRUE U.S. INTERESTS. COLUMNIST ASSERTED THAT NEW U.S. ADMINISTRATION HAD TO DEMONSTRATE IT WISHED TO BE FREE OF THIS BIAS AND SUPPORTED ASPIRATIONS PREVALENT ALL OVER THE WORLD FOR JUST PEACE IN AREA. EDITORIAL MADE USUAL CLAIM THAT STALEMATE SITUATION COULD NOT LAST AND REFERRED TO "THREATS" MADE BY ISRAELI COS OF POSSIBILITY MAKING WAR AGAINST SYRIA AS RESULT OF ITS ENTRY INTO LEBANON. COLUMNIST BOASTED THAT THIS THREATENING DECLARATION PROVED THAT ARABS IN NO NEED OF TIME TO WAGE WAR AGAINST "ZIONIST ENTITY". COLUMNIST CLOSED WITH DECLARATION THAT CURRENT SITUATION HAS TRANSCENDED ISRAEL'S MILITARY INSTITUTIONS AND WORLD ZIONIST SUPPORT BECAUSE STABILITY IN AREA IMPORTANT TO ENTIRE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

3. ALL PAPERS REPORTED PASSINGLY THAT EGYPTIAN AUTHORITIES HAD BROUGHT SECURITY SITUATION UNDER CONTROL AND RAN REUTERS ARTICLE QUOTING ARAB SOURCES AT UN FORECASTING CONVENING OF GENEVA CONFERENCE IN JUNE.

4. PAPER REPORTED MEETING OF LEBANESE QUADRIPARTITE COMMITTEE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 DAMASC 00480 211701Z

"FOLLOWING IMPLEMENTATION OF HEAVY WEAPONS COLLECTION OPERATIONS." SAUDI AMBASSADOR QUOTED TO EFFECT THAT MEDIUM WEAPONS COLLECTION WILL BE TOPIC DISCUSSED AT FORTHCOMING MEETINGS NEXT OF WHICH WILL BE HELD JAN 29. EDITORIAL ON LEBANON IN AL-THAWRA ACCUSED SOME LEBANESE CLASSES OF DEMANDING TO MAINTAIN THEIR FAMILY AND REGIONAL CLASS PRIVILEGES, EVEN IF THIS AT EXPENSE OF LEBANON'S ARABISM AND ESPECIALLY AT EXPENSE OF ITS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF AN "EASTERN FEDERATION."

5. HANI AL-HASAN QUOTED SAYING IN INTERVIEW WITH AFP THAT MEETINGS HE HELD WITH KING HUSSEIN WOULD HELP PAVE WAY FOR NEW RELATIONS WITH JORDAN. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT JORDAN SHOULDERING LARGE SHARE OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR PALESTINIAN CAUSE AND ASSERTED THAT PLO WORKING TOWARDS NEW RELATIONS WITH ALL ARAB STATES BASED ON PRINCIPLE OF NON-INTERVENTION IN THEIR INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

6. SYRIAN FARMERS' DEMANDS, ACCORDING TO HEAD OF THEIR

UNION, ARE/ (A) INTRODUCTION OF THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION
INTO RURAL AREAS, (B) COMPULSORY EDUCATION, (C) ABOLITION
OF THE ROLE OF MIDDLEMEN AND AGENTS IN THE AGRICULTURAL
SECTOR, AND (D) PROVIDING NECESSARY SERVICES IN ORDER TO
STEM RURAL MIGRATION INTO THE CITIES.

MURPHY

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, PRESS SUMMARIES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977DAMASC00480
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770023-0757
Format: TEL
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770131/aaaabapu.tel
Line Count: 122
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3d1061d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Jul-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3541707
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SYRIAN MEDIA SUMMARY JANUARY 21
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SY
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3d1061d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009